

Sinclair Broadcasting's appalling and anti-democratic decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and partisan yellow journalism.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies such as this one control the airwaves without let or hindrance, we get more of what's good for the corporate bottom line and less of what we need for a democratic republic. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own immediate communities and more substantive news about issues that matter, both at home and abroad.

Sinclair's actions show why we must strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Their heinous and reprehensible actions show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than the sham formality of a returned postcard. Thank you.